

voting booths or compartments, in which voters may conveniently mark their ballots. Said booths or compartments shall be constructed of plank not less than one inch in thickness or of substantial metallic or other material and shall be of such width, depth and height that the voter in marking his ballot therein, shall be screened from the observations of others, and for this purpose a short curtain shall be hung across the front of each compartment at a convenient height, and so as to extend a little below the shelf hereinafter mentioned. Each compartment shall have a shelf within the same, and shall be provided with proper supplies and conveniences for marking the ballots, and a guard-rail shall be constructed in said polling place so as to divide the space occupied by the judges of election and other officials and persons permitted by law to be within the same from the public; said guard-rail shall have an entrance and exit therein and shall also be so constructed and placed that only persons who are inside said rail can approach within five feet of the ballot boxes. The arrangements of such polling places shall be such that neither the ballot boxes nor the voting booths or compartments shall be hidden from view of those just outside of said guard-rail. The number of such compartments shall not be less than one for every one hundred voters qualified to vote at such polling place in Baltimore, and not less than five in any city, and not less than three in any polling place in any county. No person other than voters engaged in preparing or depositing their ballots and the election officers shall be permitted to be within said rail, unless by authority of the judges of election, for the purpose of keeping order and enforcing the law. The ballot box shall be within said rail and not more than six feet therefrom. The expense of providing such booths or compartments and guard-rail shall be a public charge, and the same, after the election is over, shall be preserved by the Supervisors of Elections for subsequent use.

67. As soon as the polls are open and immediately before any ballots are received by the judges, they shall open every ballot-box used or to be used, and having taken therefrom the poll-books, ballots and all the blanks and stationery provided by the Supervisors of Elections, they shall permit all persons rightfully present to examine such ballot boxes, and every part thereof, so that they may be satisfied as to the structure thereof, and that such ballot-box is empty. The ballot-box shall then be locked and the key delivered to one of the judges, and shall not again be opened until the closing of the polls; and until such closing each ballot-box shall be kept constantly in sight of all persons entitled to be present, and shall be so placed that the voter offering his ballot and the judges and clerks and all per-